

Times-Dispatch

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1907.

It scarcely ever happens to me that everything I am about runs smooth, or gives me satisfaction while I am about it.—Matthew Arnold.

NO SEAT, NO FARE—BUT NO FAIR, NO RIDE.

The no-seat, no-fare controversy is being put to an actual test in Jersey City, and the trouble there is acute. The very difficulty we anticipated has occurred. The New York Times, in reporting the situation in Jersey City, said:

"Passengers on the cars which were crowded were told that while they need not pay fare unless they chose, they must leave the car if they did not. They manifested much interest in the proceedings of the detectives, but said they preferred to pay for the privilege of hanging on to the straps, as they were anxious to get home."

Where a public service corporation is faithfully trying to do its duty and serve the public properly, it is not unreasonable either to expect or to endure occasional discomforts which seem inseparable from human existence. The whole question turns upon the spirit with which the general service is rendered. In the case of the street car lines in Richmond, that service is well done, and on occasions, such as our Confederate Reunion and State Fair, is conspicuously well done. There are, however, many quiet and forbearing citizens who are unnecessarily irritated by the system of transfers on our street cars. A passenger is required to make his choice of transfer before he can tell which he wants, and often, having to make a guess, he guesses wrong, and has to pay another fare.

This looks to the ordinary mortal like a trick, and it certainly seems that some way could be easily devised for removing the trouble. It is the failure to remedy just causes of complaint that loses a company friends.

IS THIS A REVOLT?

The protest of Chairman Charles N. Fowler, of the House Committee on Banking and Currency, against the issuance of Panama Canal bonds and treasury certificates is somewhat belated, and we are at a loss to understand why it was made at all. Surely, Mr. Fowler cannot be in earnest in urging the administration to "withdraw the offer of the \$100,000,000 3 per cent. certificates immediately." The President has approved the plan with some show of enthusiasm, and if he should take Mr. Fowler's advice he would stultify himself and make himself a laughing stock. It would be a confession of error and fickle-mindedness that would discredit him and his administration forever. The die is cast. The President is irrevocably committed, and Mr. Fowler knows it.

What purpose, therefore, can he have in publicly denouncing the President's plan of relief and in calling upon the administration to abandon it? Is this the beginning of a revolt against Mr. Roosevelt? We do not pretend to know, but it is some sort of an extraordinary move upon the political chess board, and it is very sure, one way or another, to have an important bearing upon the campaign of 1908.

HIGH NOTES—AGAIN.

Speaking of the high price of high-class music in America, news comes from Paris that although the gross receipts of the Paris Opera House for the year were \$650,000, the net receipts were only \$119; the profits having been cut to that figure by the large salaries commanded by the singers. By way of specification, it is mentioned that one soprano, who sang only forty-nine times during the year, received \$18,000, and seventeen artists cost the management nearly \$500 each every time they appeared. Alvarez gets about \$20,000 a year.

After all, the public are largely responsible for the imposition. Music is not a necessity, and if the public would refuse to pay exorbitant prices the singers would be compelled to pitch their notes a trifle lower, or sing to empty chairs.

Richmond recently gave a renowned singer an object lesson, which she and others of her class might do well to take to heart. She advertised to give an entertainment at the Academy of Music, in which she was to be the whole show. Seats on the lower floor were held at \$2 each, while reasonable prices prevailed for the balconies. As a result, the house was decidedly top-heavy when the concert came off. The balconies were well filled with a cultured audience, but the auditorium was almost empty. It

was a delightful concert, and the people were liberal in their applause, but they told the singer as plainly as action could tell while they were willing to pay a dollar each to hear her sing, they were not willing to pay \$2.

In the interest of art, there should be a healthful reform. The rich do not mind, but there are many lovers of music who are not able to pay \$2 a seat for a concert, and if prohibitory prices prevail none but the rich will be able to enjoy the best music.

PRISONS AND ALMSHOUSES.

The Enterprise, of Culpeper, says that the county jail is in a deplorable condition, and whites and blacks are confined in the same cells. Our contemporary surmises that the Culpeper jail is "without a parallel," but we fear that there are many others in a condition quite as bad. And, more's the pity, some people seem to think that they should not be improved. They argue that a jail should be made as hideous as possible, in order to make evildoers avoid it. True, we should not make our jails inviting, but it is cruel and barbarous to deprive any human being of fresh air, clean and healthful surroundings and pure food.

We have reason to believe that the almshouses of the State are as badly kept, comparatively speaking, as the jails.

According to the News Leader, "Mr. S. P. Maury, of Albemarle, has written an open letter to the Board of Supervisors of that county, describing in plain but stinging terms the conditions at the county poorhouse. He says the buildings are poorly built and badly kept, and the paupers are neglected and imposed upon. He hints strongly at some very pitiful and despicable graft."

The News Leader deduces from these premises the need of an inspector of our correctional and charitable institutions, as suggested by the State Conference of Charities and Corrections. It is, in our view, one of the greatest needs of the State, and we have been urging it since 1901, when the subject was first called to our attention by the conference. For years conditions at the State Penitentiary were disgraceful, but the penitentiary was always in the public eye, and by and by this public demanded reform. The people do not know how the jails and almshouses are kept. If they did know they would demand a general cleaning up and reform. A State board of charities would turn on the light and show them the real condition.

"Generally speaking," says Dr. Josiah Strong, "the chief functions of these boards are to visit and inspect charitable and reformatory institutions, in order to secure the correction of evils and abuses in their administration, and to encourage the adoption of progressive measures in their management. Such boards have usually but limited powers of administration or control. The influence they exert, while almost entirely a moral one, is shown by experience to be both efficient and useful. This will readily be apparent to those who study the conditions at the almshouses and other public institutions of charity, both previous to and since the establishment of State boards of charities."

Such boards are now in operation in New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, North Carolina, Michigan, Connecticut, Nebraska, Indiana, South Dakota, Colorado, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Missouri, California, Wyoming, Montana and the District of Columbia. Why not in Virginia?

FITZ LEE DAY.

The Jamestown Exposition will soon be a thing of the past, and most of us will be glad to get one more peep at it before the gates are finally closed. Let us take advantage of the excursions to-morrow to visit the exposition and pay a tribute to the memory of Fitz Lee. To-morrow will be "Fitz Lee Day."

Mr. James H. Ferris, chairman of the National Populist Committee, heartily approves Mr. William J. Bryan's plan to have the Federal government guarantee depositors in national banks against loss. This "indorsement" will doubtless give Mr. Bryan great joy, and if he will take a hint from the New York Evening Post he will render his plan even more popular with the Populists. Why stop at bank depositors? Then confidence would be fully restored in the twinkling of an eye, and business would hum. It is a great opportunity for Mr. Bryan to outdo Mr. Roosevelt.

Kaiser Wilhelm is reported to have shown himself a very brave man when in pursuit of the wild boars of Germany. However, it is somewhat doubtful as to how he would comport himself if suddenly confronted with one of those wild bores from Texas.

Moreover, Old Virginia will be glad to offer its services to her famous pall-bearers, upon absolutely gratis to the estate of the Taft boom.

The squirrels of Capitol Square are the only beings in Royal Richmond who are open to censure for their hoarding mania.

Republican voters in these parts continue to look with distinct favor upon the Charles E. Hughes first-term movement.

John D. Rockefeller declares that he has not got \$100,000,000 worth of government bonds. Move to make it unanimous.

We infer that Justice Brewer is on that side of the third-term talk which Senator Jonathan Bourne is so ably not representing.

The Dentist Evans will litigation has been settled at last. It was as long drawn as 17th century teeth.

Over in England nobody can be healthy, until he has proved it in the London Lancet.

Even eulogy seems powerless to pry any responsive language out of George B. Cortelyou.

The Thing to Do.

Stranger—And when the bank examiner got through unraveling the tangle, what followed?

Native—A receiver would tie up—Puck.

Borrowed Jingles.

HARD LINES AT DEAR OLD HARVARD, (Coach Crane, of Harvard, will hereafter select members of the football team for their ability and not social standing.—News Jot.)

A scion of the Back Bay bough was sulking on the line. He needed not the coach's nor the Captain's aid. His classmates shouted to him to go out and join the bunch. But he scornfully repelled them as he murmured, "I've a lunch—"

CHORUS.
 That football ain't what it used to be. They've got a lot of rubens on the squad. There's a party playing end to whom I couldn't be a friend. There's common Western person playing guard. I really want to aid dear Alma Mater, but I've chosen old Johnson on the blind. But it's asking much more to mix up with common Dutch. So I'll throw my football garments in the sink.

EXTRA STANZA.
 So the vulgar, coaching party's now severely ostracized. He's an outcast from the leading social clubs. He no longer is the cheese with the tony Bostonians. He's a fellow who commands a bunch of dubs.

But though he's now blacklisted, a pariah, He hopes to remain favor very soon. For it's whispered near the rose that he is a Louisville Courier-Journal.

To give a line position to a con.

—Nashville American.

MERELY JOKING.

Forewarning.

"John, do you love me?"

"I do."

"Will you always love me?"

"Yes—look here, woman, what have you been and gone and ordered sent home now?"

—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Our Contractors.

St. Peter: "What are these fellows trying to do—dig up the streets?"

Gabriel: "Yes, I guess they don't know anything about it—they are contractors from New York."—Lester's Week.

A Tired Request.

Kind Mrs. Brown: "Here, my poor man, take this shilling; it may help you to find work."

Bored: "Thank you kindly, lady; just put it in me waist pocket, will yer, mum?"—Philadelphia Inquirer.

A Difference Wanted.

She had come into the store to buy tablecloths, and she was looking for a bargain.

The salesman was patient and showed her everything in stock, but nothing suited her.

"What do you want?" she exclaimed, fustily.

"Haven't you anything different?"

The clerk brought out one of the discarded tablecloths and laid it on the shelf and said, with an air of interest:

"Here is one of the very newest designs, madam. You see it is in the middle and the border runs right around the edge."

"Why, yes, let me have that one," she said eagerly.—Philadelphia Ledger.

THE PARAGRAPHERS' UNION.

The New York Mail Says in Line With a Bunch of New Nominations.

Against the rubber stamp school of expression we have always stood, and therefore we positively thrill to the sentiment expressed in the following editorial from our sulphuric but Southern contemporary, The Richmond Times-Dispatch:

"When a paragrapher harks incessantly to any single or given topic, when he works it, from morning to morning, as a New York hackman would work a horse, when he dissects it, takes it apart, and then puts it back together, dusts it off and polishes it till it becomes as threadbare and faded as an old mode, silk hat, when, in short, he freezes to it till men cry aloud for mercy—then has he overstepped all legitimate bounds and the time has come to cry halt."

There is to the New York Mail, the Boston Globe, the Washington Herald, the Nashville American, the Charleston News and Courier, the Atlanta Constitution, the Montgomery Advertiser, the Houston Post and all other careful and conservative exponents of the paragraph art, both near and far, we need submit the following proposition:

The Times-Dispatch will, in conjunction with the other named contemporaries, and upon their unanimously endorsing, curbing vote, agree henceforward to eliminate from its paragraphic department all allusions, direct or indirect, to the following topics:

The Fairbanks Cocktail.

Captain Richmond P. Hobson, in His Arms of Bellicosity.

The Slowness (or Sleepiness) of Philadelphia.

The Partition of Turkey, from a Thanksgiving Standpoint.

The Weight (Wait) of Secretary Taft.

Mr. Rockefeller's Wig.

The Running Powers of William J. Bryan.

The Literary Style of Henry James.

Signor Caruso's Monkey-Shines.

The Congressional Record, Considered as Fuel.

This is a glorious work. Paragraphing is an art and it is only by eliminating the ready-made varieties of jest that the artist is distinguishable from the artisan, the painter from the photographer. We rally to The Times-Dispatch's high standard and beg to submit that the projected list:

The Non-Humorousness of Punch.

Tailor's Bills.

Breaking Down of Automobiles.

The Non-Music of Wagner (or Grand Opera).

Conjugal Infidelity.

The Output of Indiana's Literateurs.

The University of Chicago Professors.

The Poetry of Alfred Austin.

The Size of Bathing Suits.

On with the demolition! The able paragrapher will not mind. Weather permitting, he can write twenty daily paragraphs on meteorological conditions.

Chapter Card Party.

Mrs. D. T. Williams will entertain

at cards in her residence, No. 210 East Franklin Street, to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The entertainment is for the benefit of the fund Commonwealth Chapter devoted to relief for completing the payment of the D. C. R. house at Jamestown Island.

Mrs. Williams will be assisted by Mrs. C. Chambers, Mrs. W. J. Johnson and Mrs. C. W. Brock.

Annals—Montague.

The marriage of Mrs. Inez Withers Montague to Mr. David Allen Annals will take place at 11:30 a. m. at No. 111-9 South Third Street.

Immediately after the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Annals will leave for the Norfolk Hotel, Chase City. Later they will visit Lynchburg and points North.

Gregory—Martin.

A beautiful wedding took place at the home of Mr. F. F. Martin on the Nile Mill Road, Wednesday evening, when his daughter, Hannah Matilda, was married to Mr. Robert E. Gregory, the Rev. F. H. Meuschke officiating.

Palms, ferns, yellow and white chrysanthemums tastefully decorated the house, the ceremony being performed in the first drawing-room, before an altar, improvised of ferns and chrysanthemums.

The bride, who wore a gown of white crepe de chine over tulle, tulle veil, caught with diamonds, and carried a bouquet of white roses, was escorted by Mr. Robert E. Gregory, her father.

Miss Grace Greenwood, her maid of honor, and Mrs. Robert Roberts, her matron of honor, will wear point lace robes, with touches of pale pink chrysanthemum. The bridesmaids, Misses Jean and Margaret Fraser, will be gowned in pink messaline. All the bride's attendants will carry shower baskets of pink roses.

Mr. George Street will act as the groom's best man. The groomsmen will be Mr. Thomas Branch McAdams, Mr. Pleasant L. Reed, Mr. John Charleston and the brother of the bride, Messrs. William Fenton John James and Howard Lee McAdams.

The church will be decorated in green and white, the centre aisle leading from the awning being covered with white and roped with smilax from the door. Bunches of white chrysanthemums will be placed at intervals on the pew ends. Altar decorations will display a massing of white chrysanthemums against a background of palms, many-branched candelabra rising from clusters of the blossoms on the altar.

The ceremony will be performed by the Rev. Dr. William J. Young, the pastor of the church. Mr. Shepherd Webb, assisted by Mr. Ernest Cosby, will preside at the organ, and Miss Agnes Reinhardt will render a violin oblation.

Immediately after the ceremony Mrs. William McAdams will receive the families of both bride and groom and the wedding party at her home, on Floyd Avenue. The house will be decorated with smilax, pink roses and growing ferns.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitte will sail from New York on Wednesday for the Bermuda Islands, where they will spend several weeks. Returning, they will for some time in Canada and New York.

The out-of-town guests will include Mrs. John Lewis Sims, of Birmingham, Ala.; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ryrie, of Toronto, Canada; Mrs. A. Leftwich Sinclair, of Washington, D. C.; Mr. Edwin Hyde Updike, of New York; Mr. Ben. F. Dixon, of Raleigh, N. C.; Dr. Maclean and Miss Mary Maclean, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Mr. W. Mac Hanchett, of Philadelphia.

Whist Tournament.

The first whist tournament of this season at the Woman's Club was played Friday evening, nine tables being engaged. Captain George W. Webster directed the tournament, which proved a most animated and agreeable affair to all taking part. Supper was served on the card tables when the contest was over. Later the reading of scores showed Mrs. Webster and Mrs. Wingo winners, north and south. Mrs. M. D. Hogg and Miss Quarles made the highest score east and west. Others playing were Mrs. Arthur Cannon, Mrs. Stuart Woodward, Dr. and Mrs. Basil D. Spalding, Mrs. George Haycock, Mrs. William Miller, Miss Helen Montague, Mr. Watkins, Mrs. M. C. W. Patterson, Miss Gordon, Mr. J. R. Cary, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Borden, Mrs. Bland S. Smith, Colonel M. L. Spotswood, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Travers, Mrs. D. C. Williams, Mrs. O. E. Wingo, Mr. C. C. Chapin, Miss Chapin, Miss Guillaume, Admiral Webster, Mrs. M. C. W. Patterson, Mr. Robbins, Mr. Robert Scott, Mrs. H. L. Spillman, Mrs. Alice M. Tyler, Mr. Frank Orgain, Mrs. Edmund Waddill and Miss Goldsborough.

Engagement Announced.

Mr. George J. Anderson, of Ashland, announces the engagement and approaching marriage of his daughter, Mary Roberts, to Mr. James F. Howison, recently of Ashland, but now of Philadelphia. The wedding will be celebrated on December 18th in St. James Episcopal Church, Ashland. Miss Anderson is a granddaughter of the late George W. Anderson, a well-known business man of Richmond, and a niece of General Charles J. Anderson and Mr. Cannon Flemings, of this city.

Invitations Issued.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Carment have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Grace Virginia, to Mr. D. C. O'Haberty, the wedding to be celebrated at the residence of the bride's brother, No. 410 Allen Avenue.

Auto-Nuptial Honorary.

Miss Alice Landon Walker and Miss Margaret Walker, of Richmond, recently were married at the residence of the bride's brother, No. 410 Allen Avenue, in honor of his daughter, Miss Alice Landon Walker, formerly Miss Watson Walker, formerly of Richmond, but now of Diboll, Tex., will occur Wednesday evening.

The ceremony will be performed in the bride's home, No. 2423 North Charles Street, the dean of the Memorial Episcopal church, of that city, the Rev. Dr. Randolph, officiating.

Miss Minnie Schwarz will attend the bride as maid of honor, and Mr. J. Henry Lee, of the city, will act as the groom's best man.

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Mr. George Street will act as the groom's best man. The groomsmen will be Mr. Thomas Branch McAdams, Mr. Pleasant L. Reed, Mr. John Charleston and the brother of the bride, Messrs. William Fenton John James and Howard Lee McAdams.

The church will be decorated in green and white, the centre aisle leading from the awning being covered with white and roped with smilax from the door. Bunches of white chrysanthemums will be placed at intervals on the pew ends. Altar decorations will display a massing of white chrysanthemums against a background of palms, many-branched candelabra rising from clusters of the blossoms on the altar.

The ceremony will be performed by the Rev. Dr. William J. Young, the pastor of the church. Mr. Shepherd Webb, assisted by Mr. Ernest Cosby, will preside at the organ, and Miss Agnes Reinhardt will render a violin oblation.

Immediately after the ceremony Mrs. William McAdams will receive the families of both bride and groom and the wedding party at her home, on Floyd Avenue. The house will be decorated with smilax, pink roses and growing ferns.

SOCIAL and PERSONAL

INTEREST of society at the opening of the week centres in the wedding of Miss Mabel McCall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McCall, to Mr. and Mrs. Whitte, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whitte, Sr., which will take place at Centenary Methodist Church to-day at 6:30 P. M.

The bride will be gowned in a robe of ivory, duchesse satin. The bridesmaid will be draped with rose point lace and caught with pearls. She will carry a shower of orchids and lilies of the valley, and she will be given away by her father.

Miss Grace Greenwood, her maid of honor, and Mrs. Robert Roberts, her matron of honor, will wear point lace robes, with touches of pale pink chrysanthemum. The bridesmaids, Misses Jean and Margaret Fraser, will be gowned in pink messaline. All the bride's attendants will carry shower baskets of pink roses.

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